

GENERAL CURATOR

Class Definition

Under general supervision, performs professional curatorial work directing and supervising the care, feeding, conservation, propagation and display primarily of mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians and invertebrates.

Distinguishing Characteristics

General Curator is a single-position class reporting to the Zoo Manager. General Curator is a first-line supervisory class which establishes and implements procedures necessary for the day-to-day operation of the zoological collection. This class is distinguished from Zoo Manager in that the incumbent of the latter plans, directs and coordinates the administration and operation of the zoo. The General Curator is distinguished from the Zoo Supervisor in that the latter is the first-line supervisory class in which the incumbent plans, schedules, trains, and supervises employees engaged primarily in the care of zoo animals through the maintenance of exhibits, grounds and buildings. The General Curator is distinguished from the class of Curator of Education in that the incumbent of the latter is responsible for the zoo educational program.

Typical Duties

(May include but are not limited to the following)

Plans and directs the day-to-day operation of the zoological collection; directs the care, maintenance, feeding and propagation of specimens; acquires specimens through field collection, dealers and other zoological facilities; arranges for the exchange and sale of specimens; supervises the shipping of specimens.

Assists in the planning of exhibits and exhibit graphics to help educate the public concerning the habits and natural habitats of the specimens on display.

Handles dangerous or poisonous specimens and may treat injured or ill specimens under direction of the veterinarian.

Trains employees in the proper procedures for the care and handling of specimens to avoid injury to employees and specimens.

Provides supervision to Zoo Keepers and oversees maintenance of animal exhibits.

Responds to specific inquiries from the public concerning the zoological collection.

Coordinates the acquisition of required state and federal permits, keeps accurate scientific records, upholds all standards set by municipal, county, state, federal and AZA regulations.

Performs related duties as required.

Knowledge, Skills, Abilities

(The following are a representative sample of the KSA's necessary to perform the duties of the class)

Knowledge of wild animal behavior, adaptations, dietary and housing requirements for a zoological collection.

Knowledge of the principles, practices, procedures and applied theory of caring for sick or injured animals.

Knowledge of propagation theories for a diverse zoological collection.

Ability to deal courteously and tactfully with general public.

Ability to train and work effectively with employees and volunteers.

Ability to plan and maintain interesting exhibitions of a zoological collection.

Minimum Qualifications

Graduation from an accredited college or university with a Bachelor's Degree in Zoology, Biology, Wildlife Management or closely related fields, and five years of paid experience in the care of mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians and invertebrates at an AZA accredited facility.

APPROVED: _____
Director

DATE: _____